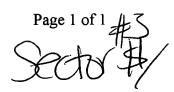


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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
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APPLICATION NUMBER

FILING/RECEIPT DATE

FIRST NAMED APPLICANT

ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER

09/713,075

11/15/2000

Eric William Brown

YOR920000807US1

CONFIRMATION NO. 4728

FORMALITIES LETTER

OC00000005912787

IBM Corporation Intellectual Property Law Dept. P. O. Box 218 Yorktown Heights, NY 10598

Date Mailed: 03/28/2001

NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS OF NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION

FILED UNDER 37 CFR 1.53(b)

Filing Date Granted

An application number and filing date have been accorded to this application. The item(s) indicated below, however, are missing. Applicant is given TWO MONTHS from the date of this Notice within which to file all required items and pay any fees required below to avoid abandonment. Extensions of time may be obtained by filing a petition accompanied by the extension fee under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

- The oath or declaration is unsigned.
- To avoid abandonment, a late filing fee or oath or declaration surcharge as set forth in 37 CFR 1.16(e) of \$130 for a non-small entity, must be submitted with the missing items identified in this letter.
- The balance due by applicant is \$ 130.

A copy of this notice MUST be returned with the reply.

Customer Service Center

Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202

PART 2 - COPY TO BE RETURNED WITH RESPONSE

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tent Application of

Initial Patent Examination

Division

Eric William Brown et al.

Box Missing Parts

Serial No.: 09/713,075

Date: June 6, 2001

Filed: November 15, 2000

For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR FINDING THE MOST LIKELY

ANSWER TO A NATURAL LANGUAGE QUESTION

To: Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Initial Patent Examination Division

Box Missing Parts

Washington, D.C. 20231

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that the attached correspondence comprising:

Return Postcard;

Response to Filing of Missing Parts of Application Under 37 CFR 1.63

(in duplicate);

Declaration and Power of Attorney Form;

Notice to File Missing Parts of Application (return copy);

Assignment to IBM with attached Recordation Form; and

Petition and Fee for Extension of Time (37 CFR 1.136(a)).

is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Initial Patent Examination Division Box Missing Parts Washington, DC 20231

on June 6, 2001

Margaret McCabe (Print name of person certifying)

(Signature of person certifying)

Docket YOR920000807US1



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of : Initial Patent Examination

Division

Eric William Brown et al. : Box Missing Parts

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Serial No.: 09/713,075 : Date: June 6, 2001

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For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR FINDING THE MOST LIKELY

ANSWER TO A NATURAL LANGUAGE QUESTION

RESPONSE TO FILING OF MISSING PARTS OF APPLICATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.63

FILING DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FILING ASSIGNMENT

To: Assistant Commissioner for Patents Initial Patent Examination Division Box Missing Parts Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

On November 15, 2000, the above-identified application was filed with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, under Rule 1.53(b) Missing Parts.

Enclosed at this time is an original declaration, which includes the signatures of the four inventors. This copy has been altered only to indicate the serial number and filing date of the subject application.

Also attached for filing is the original fully executed Assignment for the above-identified application with the required Recordation Form Cover Sheet.

The fee of \$170.00 representing both the Surcharge of \$130.00 and Assignment fee of \$40.00 is to be charged to Deposit Account No.: 09-0468. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

A copy of the "Notice to File Missing Parts of Application-Filing Date Granted", date mailed March 28, 2001, is also attached as per your instructions.

Respectfully submitted, Attorney for the Applicants

Attorney: Louis J Reg. No. 38,206

Tel. (914) 945-3/145

Percel

IBM Thomas J. Watson Research Center Intellectual Property Law Department P.O. Box 218
Yorktown Heights, N.Y. 10598

Attorney Docket: YOR920000807US1